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Brussels, 20.04.2022

Dear President of the European Council,  
Mr. Charles Michel,

Our Union has been facing an unprecedented challenge in the history since World War II. Undoubtedly, the determination of the European Union has led to many decisive reactions. Tougher sanctions, including the embargo on Russian coal, gas and oil imports, are necessary to stop the Russian barbaric aggression. The situation is clear: every Member State is aware of the seriousness of the matter, and as Europe, we are following the same direction. Except for one - Hungary, which its Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs declared not supporting the mentioned sanctions on energy sources from Russia.

Many times Hungarian government undermined European solidarity during the Russian aggression. The newly re-elected Prime Minister Victor Orbán openly indicated the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy as his political enemy. As a consequence, on the 6th of April, the Ukrainian ambassador was summoned by the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which could be treated as a clear hostile message sent to Kyiv.

Mr. Orbán announced that he is ready to pay in roubles for Russian gas and forbade supplying weapons and military equipment through Hungarian territory. For the special attention deserves the fact, that Mr. Orbán's propaganda does not inform his citizens reliably about the situation in Ukraine. What is more, they spread Russian disinformation among their citizens, like Mr. Orbán's heinous response concerning Russian war crimes in Bucha, which he questioned. These actions reflect our European credibility and the practical dimension of the sentence: "stand with Ukraine."

Even Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs Péter Szijjártó was honoured by Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Time to act in order to avoid an impasse on the sanctions implementation. We believe the EU leaders will be ready soon to adopt the embargo on Russian imports of coal, oil, and gas, and in this case, as the EU, we have to be prepared for the Hungarian act to block these actions. Taking into account the facts, we Members of the European Parliament, are calling on continuing urgently the article 7 TEU procedure against Hungary, which will suspend questioning any European Union's sanctions on Russia.

We cannot tolerate longer Putin's ally among us.

Kind regards,  
Łukasz Kohut (S&D)  
Bartosz Arłukowicz (EPP)